Shortage of Newsprint in the Country

*57. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of newsprint in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that most of the newspapers have been forced to reduce their circulation and some of them are on the verge of closure; and

(c) if so, what remedial action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) There is shortage of newsprint but no cut has been imposed in the release of newsprint so far and no newspaper has reported to the Registrar of Newspapers for India any reduction in its circulation or closure for want of newsprint.

Transfer of Centrally Sponsored Schemes to States

*58. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission has decided to transfer a majority of the existing centrally sponsored schemes to States and to discontinue several similar schemes;

(b) if so, what are the details;

(c) whether the decision of the Planning Commission has been implemented; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) to (d) It has been decided that the existing Centrally Sponsored Schemes should be reviewed and the schemes of national importance should be retained by the Centre and the other schemes should be transferred to the States.

The review is underway in consultation with the Central Ministries and State Governments with a view to list them out into two groups, *viz.*, (i) those related to national goals and having a national or inter-State character, which are important to be funded and monitored from the Centre; and (ii) other schemes which can be handled at the State/local level.

Enlarging the scope of Press Council

*59. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 581 given in the Rajya Sabha on 1st January, 1991 and state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to enlarge the scope of the Press Council and make it a media council and bring under its purview the video cassettes;

(b) what would be the power given to the said council; and

(c) whether there would be any means available to stop the circulation of video-cassettes considered objectionable by the council before their circulation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

पंजाब में हिंसक घटनाएं

*60. सरदार अवतार सिंह करोड़ा : श्री राम जेठमलानी : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि अक्तूबर 1990 से पंजाब में हिंसक घटनाओं में वृद्धि हुई है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इन महीनों के दौरान इस प्रकार की कुल कितनी घटनाएं हुई

और उनमें कुल कितने लोग मारे गए तथा उन लोगों की संख्या कितनी है जो पुलिस अथवा सुरक्षा बलों द्वारा चलाई गई गोलियों से मारे गए है; और

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि इन महीनों में पंजाब से पलायन करने वाले लोगों की संख्या में वृद्धि हुई है और यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है?

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुबोध कान्त सहाय) : (क) अक्तूबर, 1990 के बाद के महीनों में पंजाब में हिंसात्मक घटनाओं में कमी आई है, यद्यपि नवम्बर, 1990 में मारे गए व्यक्तियों की संख्या उससे पहले के महीने की अपेक्षा अधिक थी। उसके बाद के महीनों में इस संख्या में कमी आई है।

(ख) तथा (ग) एक विवरण सदन के पटल पर रखा जाता है। जैसा कि उसमें दिखाया गया है, प्रवासियों की संख्या में नवम्बर, 1990 की तुलना में दिसम्बर, 1990 तथा जनवरी, 1991 में कमी दिखाई दी है, हालांकि इस संख्या में घट-बढ़ हुई।

विवरण

माह	हिंसक घटनाओं से संबंधित आतंकवादियों की संख्या	पुलिस कार्मिकों सहित मारे गए व्यक्तियों की संख्या	मारे गए आतंकवादी	राज्य के अंदर अन्य स्थानों तथा राज्य से बाहर गए परिवारों की संख्या
अक्तूबर, 1990	552	306	161	*
नवम्बर, 1990	535	364	171	453
दिसम्बर, 1990	433	207	127	162
जनवरी, 1991	459	243	111	235

*माह अक्तूबर, 1990 के आंकड़े तत्काल उपलब्ध नहीं हैं।

Labour-cost per unit output in India

223. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has the cheapest labour force but the labour cost per unit of output is among the highest in the world;

(b) if so, the reasons, therefor;

(c) whether the growth rate of value added per worker in various industries of the country has been on the decline; if so, the names of the industries; and

(d) the steps being taken to reduce the labour cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) and (b) The country-wise information on wages and labour-cost per unit of output on uniform comparative basis is not available.

(c) A statement indicating the rates of growth of value added per worker in various industries during 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 for the most recent years for which A.S.I. data are available, is enclosed. It may be noted that there has been an increase in the value added per